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FORM 17

CLASS ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ CONTROL/US OFFICIALSCOUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Oranienburg

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

27 February 1951

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REFERENCES PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. 32 now, unnumbered rocket launchers had arrived at the so-called Weisse Stadt settlement in Oranienburg (N 53/2 67) in late December 1951. *

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2. All the windows of the buildings of the Oranienburg concentration camp which could be seen from the street were lighted in the evening. No training activity was noticed. Motor vehicles identified in the billeting area

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3. The Kaiser Stahlwerk (steel works) was guarded by soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets and was occupied by a guard detail of about 30 soldiers. The garages were closed. There was no vehicular traffic. ***
4. Three four-story buildings of the Oranienburg Castle were occupied by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. ***
5. The Weisse Stadt Settlement consisted of 19 three-story dwellings each with two apartments and three entrances and with three wooden sheds serving as garages. The houses and the garages were occupied to capacity. Trucks and rocket launchers were parked in the open.

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6. orders to build a garage for 30 rail-type rocket launchers in the Weisse Stadt Settlement. Construction work was supervised by Holzmann (fnu), an architect who was directly subordinate to Tito Nayerd (spelling uncertain), the chief of central special construction bureau, Eberswalde. This bureau is subordinate to the district construction bureau in Oranienburg which

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is headed by German Oberbaurat Wick (fnu).

7. A military shipment which came from the direction of Bornau and arrived at the Oranienburg freight station at about 10 a.m. on 27 January 1951 included four JS-3 tanks on four flatcars, four trucks and one ambulance on five flatcars, and troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying field equipment in five passenger coaches. The following vehicles were identified on their way to the Oranienburg concentration camp: Three tanks [redacted] the ambulance, and the four trucks, [redacted] each occupied by 30 soldiers. The tank [redacted] moved to the Weisse Stadt Settlement. *

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8. Between 25 and 31 January 1951, it was learned that 14 houses in the Weisse Stadt restricted area were occupied by 400 to 500 troops, including about 20 percent AF personnel and 80 percent wearing red-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia; 15 to 20 one-family houses were occupied to capacity by troops with red-bordered black epaulets. Two three-story houses of the old sawmill, also located in the restricted area, were occupied to capacity by troops with red-bordered black epaulets. The former school had been converted into a kitchen while wooden barracks buildings were used as garages. About 100 trucks parked near the sawmill were guarded by sentries with red-bordered black epaulets. Motor vehicles [redacted] were seen in traffic to the restricted area. *

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9. The Oranienburg Castle quartered about 400 troops with red-bordered black epaulets, including one officer wearing tank insignia. Fifty soldiers equipped with rifles were drilling at the field west of the castle. The eastern section of the castle was being rebuilt, with the first floor partially occupied. ***
10. The Panzerschule and the concentration camp along Bornauerallee, partially barred, quartered about 3,000 troops. It could not be determined whether the installation was occupied to capacity. Soldiers observed wore red-bordered black epaulets, and officers wore tank insignia. A T-34/85 tank moved into the billeting area through the center entrance. Eight soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and equipped with an 82-mm mortar left the installation. Two details, each of eight men wearing red-bordered black epaulets, were engaged in laying telephone lines at the drill field. Motor vehicles identified in the billeting area [redacted]

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- * [redacted] Comment. Rocket launchers are reported from the Weisse Stadt Settlement for the first time. The information [redacted] on the arrival of 32 new rocket launchers has been confirmed [redacted] present report, although in a different form. From evaluation of motor vehicle [redacted] in previous reports and in the present report it is believed that headquarters units of the Second Gds Mecz Army are located in the Weisse Stadt. It is possible that the previously unidentified RL Regt of the Second Gds Mecz Army in the Weisse Stadt Settlement, Oranienburg, was activated in January 1951. This is supported [redacted] the rocket launchers concerned were new; the number mentioned applies to the equipment of a regiment; [redacted]

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** Comment. The Panzerschule and the Oranienburg concentration camp are one billeting area. No changes were noted since last reports. Most of the motor vehicle belonged to the 25th Gds Tank Div.

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*** Comment. There were no changes in the Kaiserwerke and the castle.

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